

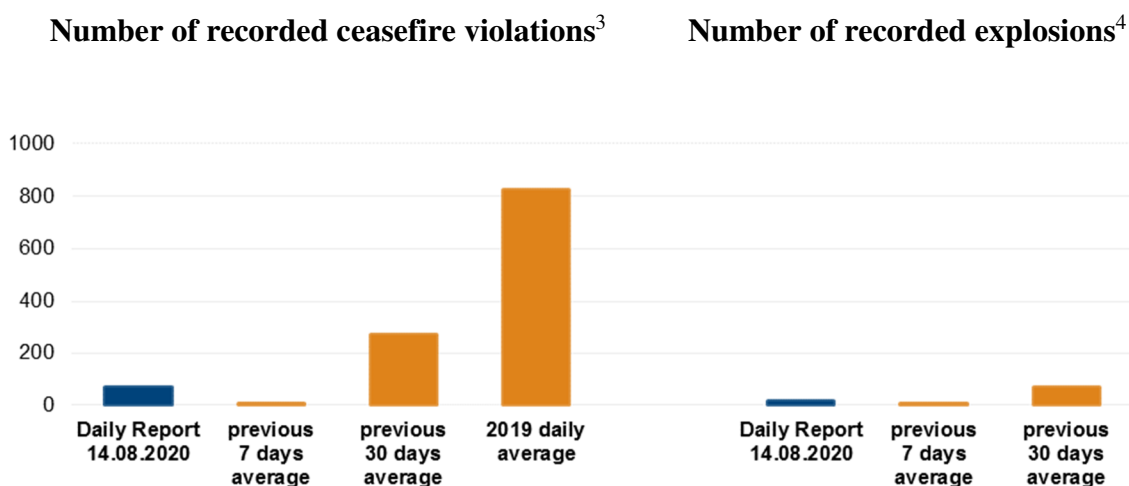
Daily Report 193/2020

14 August 2020¹

Summary

- The SMM recorded 36 ceasefire violations in Donetsk region, most of which occurred in areas east of Donetsk city, and 34 ceasefire violations in Luhansk region, most of which were assessed as a live-fire exercise outside the security zone. In the previous reporting period, the Mission recorded no ceasefire violations in both regions.
- The Mission continued monitoring the disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske. Inside the latter two areas, an SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle observed people during evening and night hours.
- The SMM observed weapons in violation of withdrawal lines in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including in a training area.
- The Mission facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable the maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure.
- The Mission continued following up on the situation of civilians amid the COVID-19 outbreak, including at an entry-exit checkpoint in Luhansk region.
- The SMM's freedom of movement continued to be restricted.*

Ceasefire violations²



¹ Based on information from the Monitoring Teams as of 19:30, 13 August 2020. All times are in Eastern European Summer Time.

² For a complete breakdown of ceasefire violations, please see the annexed table. During the reporting period, the SMM cameras in Petrivske and near Shyrokyne were not operational.

³ Including explosions.

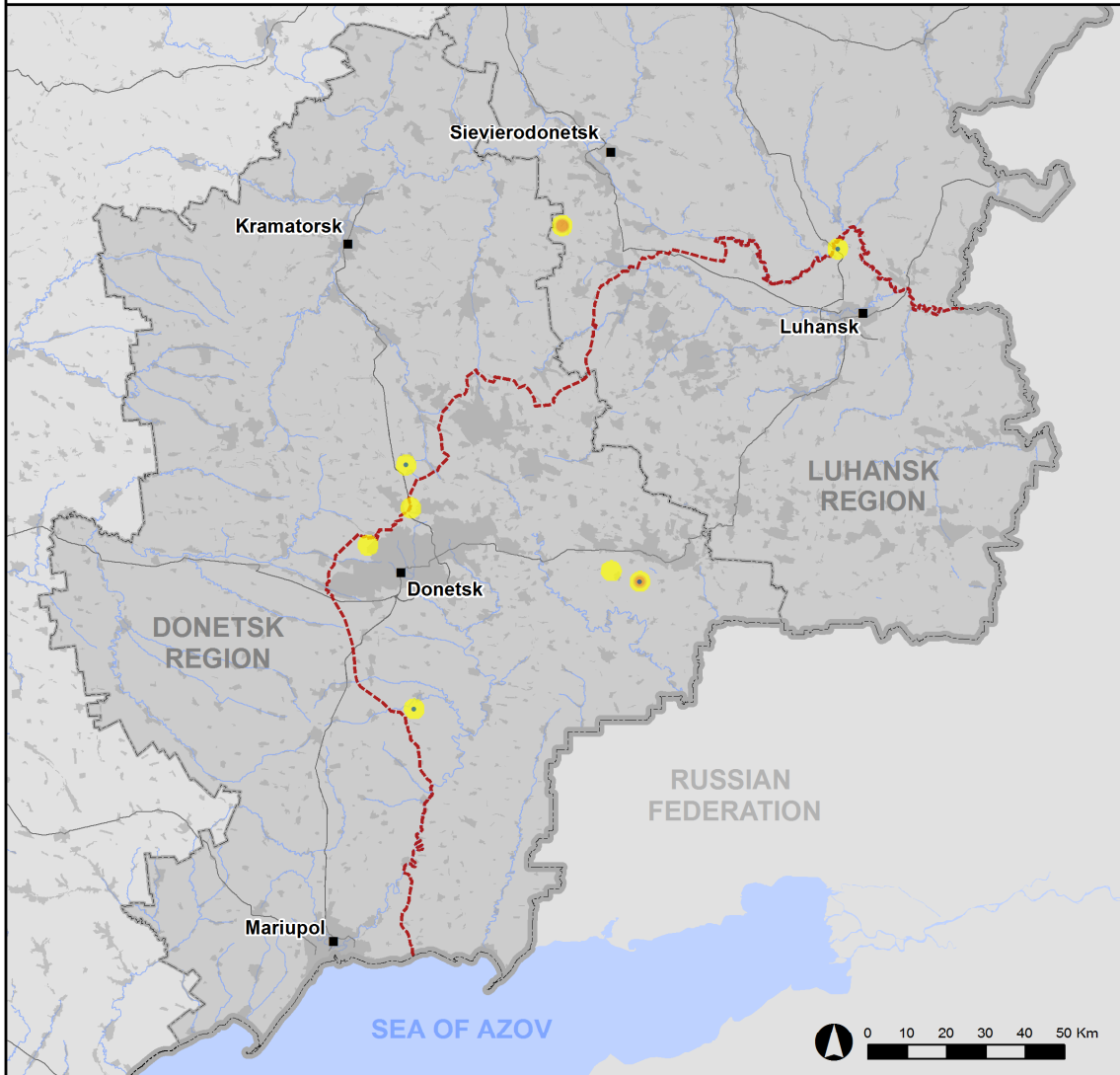
⁴ Including from unidentified weapons.

Map of recorded ceasefire violations

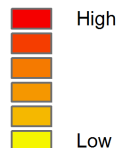


Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

Ceasefire violations observed by the SMM 13 August 2020



Ceasefire violation concentration



- Explosion
- Settlement
- Estimated line of contact

Sources: Administrative Boundaries - OCHA; Roads, Rivers - OpenStreetMap; Sea - VLIZ (2005). IHO Sea Areas; Other - OSCE.

Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 37N

This map is provided for illustrative purposes only. Its content is not warranted to be error-free and does not imply endorsement or acceptance by the OSCE SMM.

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Created: 14/08/2020

Ceasefire violations

In Donetsk region, the SMM recorded 36 ceasefire violations, including 16 explosions (in the [previous reporting period](#) it recorded no ceasefire violations). The majority of ceasefire violations, including six outgoing and six impact explosions, were recorded in areas south-west of Ternove (non-government-controlled, 57km east of Donetsk).

In Luhansk region, the Mission recorded 34 ceasefire violations, including one explosion (in the [previous reporting period](#) it recorded no ceasefire violations). Almost all ceasefire violations were recorded in areas west of Mykolaivka (government-controlled, 77km north-west of Luhansk) and assessed as a live-fire exercise outside the security zone.

Following agreement reached at the meeting of the Trilateral Contact Group on 22 July regarding additional measures to strengthen the ceasefire, from 00:01 on 27 July until the end of the reporting period, the SMM has so far recorded a total of 332 ceasefire violations, both in Donetsk and Luhansk regions (including 63 explosions, two projectiles in flight, five illumination flares and 262 bursts and shots).

Disengagement areas near Stanytsia Luhanska, Zolote and Petrivske⁵

Inside the **disengagement area near Stanytsia Luhanska** (government-controlled, 16km north-east of Luhansk), the SMM saw two members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them) on the southern edge of the new span of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge (15km north-east of Luhansk).

On the evening of 12 August, inside the **disengagement area near Zolote** (government-controlled, 60km west of Luhansk), an SMM long-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) spotted seven people near former positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces – two about 180m and 550m, respectively, west-south-west of the area’s north-eastern corner as well as three about 1km west-south-west and two about 550m south-west of the same corner. Also inside the disengagement area, the same UAV spotted a person near a former position of the armed formations near the area’s eastern edge and about 1.5km north of its south-eastern corner.

On 13 August, near the checkpoint of the armed formations south of the disengagement area, the Mission saw seven members of the armed formations (wearing armbands with “JCCC” written on them), four of whom (one in a hazmat suit, carrying a gas mask and a container with a spraying device, and two in protective garments) it saw entering and walking about 350m north inside the disengagement area and then returning. At this location, the SMM observed the person wearing the hazmat suit spraying a disinfecting substance from a canister onto the trailer of an SMM vehicle traveling towards non-government-controlled areas.

On the same day, outside the disengagement area, between 300m and 430m south of its southern edge, the SMM saw six workers with a truck and a grader conducting vegetation clearance and groundworks on the eastern shoulder of road T-1316, reportedly to lay communication cables.

⁵ Disengagement is foreseen in the Framework Decision of the Trilateral Contact Group relating to disengagement of forces and hardware of 21 September 2016.

On the night between 12 and 13 August, inside the **disengagement area near Petrivske** (non-government-controlled, 41km south of Donetsk), an SMM long-range UAV spotted two people in former positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces- one about 550m and another one about 1.5km, respectively, east-north-east of the area's south-western corner. Also inside the area, the same UAV spotted three people in former positions of the armed formations near the area's south-eastern corner.

On 13 August, while on the western edge of Petrivske the Mission heard one explosion at an assessed range of 3-4km north and assessed as outside the disengagement area but within 5km of its periphery. The SMM again saw four white small cement blocks placed across the road leading from Petrivske to Bohdanivka (government-controlled, 41km south-west of Donetsk) about 90m west of the camera site (the Mission had first seen them on 3 August and then on 11 August it had seen that they had been removed, see SMM Daily Reports of [4 August 2020](#) and [12 August 2020](#)).

Withdrawal of weapons

The SMM continued to monitor the withdrawal of weapons in implementation of the Memorandum and the Package of Measures and its Addendum. The Mission saw weapons in violation of withdrawal lines in non-government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, as well as weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage areas in government- and non-government-controlled areas of Luhansk region (for further details, see the tables below).

Weapons storage sites

At a heavy weapons permanent storage site in a non-government-controlled area of Luhansk region

13 August

The SMM noted that one multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 *Grad*, 122mm) was missing for the first time.

Indications of military and military-type presence inside the security zone⁶

The Mission observed armoured combat vehicles in government-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including in residential areas (for further details, see the table below).

Impact craters in Spartak

On 13 August, an SMM mid-range UAV spotted for the first time eight probable impact craters in fields 400m north-west of Spartak (non-government-controlled, 9km north of Donetsk) and four probable impact craters in the backyard of a residential building in Spartak, all assessed as caused by probable 120mm mortar rounds (not seen in imagery from 5 July 2020).

⁶ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Anti-tank mines near Spartak and at the destroyed Donetsk International airport

On 12 August, on the northern edge of Spartak, an SMM long-range UAV [again](#) spotted 44 anti-tank mines laid in two rows across a road leading to Yasynuvata (non-government-controlled, 16km north-east of Donetsk), assessed as belonging to the armed formations.

On the same day, the same UAV spotted 50 anti-tank mines within the area of the destroyed Donetsk International airport laid in three rows across the former runway, assessed as belonging to the armed formations (for previous observations in the area, see [SMM Daily Report of 29 August 2019](#)).

SMM facilitation of maintenance and operation of critical civilian infrastructure

The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to localised ceasefires to enable preparations of construction works south of the southern edge of the disengagement area near Zolote (see above) and near Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk), south of the bridge in Shchastia (government-controlled, 20km north of Luhansk). While positioned on the southern edge of Vesela Hora, the Mission heard an undetermined explosion at an assessed distance of 2km north-north-east. Later during the day, near a checkpoint of the armed formations on road H-21 about 2.7km east of Vesela Hora the SMM saw a tractor with a damaged front wheel. A member of the armed formations told the Mission that earlier in the day the tractor had driven over and triggered an explosive device on the side of the road about 150m north of the checkpoint. The driver was transported to a hospital in non-government-controlled Luhansk city.

The Mission also continued to facilitate and monitor adherence to localised ceasefires to enable vegetation clearance, inspection and maintenance of railway tracks near Vilkhove (government-controlled, 22km north-east of Luhansk), as well as demining activities on the northern side of the bridge in Shchastia and near Orikhove (government-controlled, 57km north-west of Luhansk).

The SMM also continued to facilitate and monitor adherence to localised ceasefires to enable repairs to power lines near Vesela Hora and to water infrastructure near Pivdenne (formerly Leninske, government-controlled, 40km north-east of Donetsk), Horlivka (non-government-controlled, 39km north-east of Donetsk), Yashchykove (non-government-controlled, 46km west of Luhansk) and near Pankivka (non-government-controlled, 16km north of Luhansk).

The Mission continued to facilitate the operation of the Donetsk Filtration Station (15km north of Donetsk) and to monitor the security situation near the pumping station near Vasylivka (non-government-controlled, 20km north of Donetsk).

Measures taken at entry-exit checkpoints and corresponding checkpoints to counter COVID-19 outbreak

In Luhansk region, the SMM noted that the entry-exit checkpoint (EECP) in Stanytsia Luhanska and the corresponding checkpoint of the armed formations south of the Stanytsia Luhanska bridge were operational.

While at the EECF at about 08:50 and 13:45, the Mission saw in total about 550 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) queuing to enter government-controlled areas and in total about 710 pedestrians (mixed genders and ages) queuing in the opposite direction.

The Mission continued monitoring in Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Dnipro, Chernivtsi and Kyiv.

***Restrictions of the SMM's freedom of movement or other impediments to fulfilment of its mandate**

The SMM's monitoring and freedom of movement are restricted by security hazards and threats, including risks posed by mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) and other impediments – which vary from day to day. The SMM's mandate provides for safe and secure access throughout Ukraine. All signatories of the Package of Measures have agreed on the need for this safe and secure access, that restriction of the SMM's freedom of movement constitutes a violation, and on the need for rapid response to these violations. They have also agreed that the Joint Centre for Control and Co-ordination (JCCC) should contribute to such response and co-ordinate mine clearance. Nonetheless, the armed formations in parts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions frequently deny the SMM access to areas adjacent to Ukraine's border outside control of the Government (for example, see [SMM Daily Report 10 August 2020](#)). The SMM's operations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions remain restricted following [the fatal incident of 23 April 2017 near Pryshyb](#); these restrictions continued to limit the Mission's observations.

Regular restrictions related to disengagement areas and mines/UXO:

- The sides continued to deny the SMM full access, as well as the ability to travel certain roads previously identified as important for effective monitoring by the Mission and for civilians' movement, through failure to conduct comprehensive clearance of mines, UXO and other obstacles.

Other impediments:

- An SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference assessed as caused by probable jamming while flying over areas near Staromykhailivka (non-government-controlled, 15km west of Donetsk).
- An SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference assessed as caused by probable jamming while flying over areas near Pisky (government-controlled, 11km north-west of Donetsk).
- On two occasions, an SMM mini-UAV experienced GPS signal interference, assessed as caused by probable jamming, while flying over areas near Lebedynske (government-controlled, 99km south of Donetsk).
- An SMM mid-range UAV experienced GPS signal interference assessed as caused by probable jamming while flying over areas between Chermalyk (government-controlled, 77km south of Donetsk) and Naberezhne (non-government-controlled, 77km south of Donetsk).⁷

⁷ The interference could have originated from anywhere within the radius of kilometres from the UAVs' positions.

Table of weapons

Weapons in violation of the withdrawal lines

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Non-government-controlled areas				
13/08/2020	2	Towed howitzer (D-30 <i>Lyagushka</i> , 122mm)	On a road close to the training area near Ternove (57km east of Donetsk)	Patrol
	21	Multiple launch rocket system (BM-21 <i>Grad</i> , 122mm)	Near Khrustalny (formerly Krasnyi Luch, 56km south-west of Luhansk)	

Weapons beyond withdrawal lines but outside designated storage sites

Date	No. of weapons	Type of weapon	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
12/08/2020	7	Tanks (T-64)	At the railway station in Rubizhne (84km north-west of Luhansk) (for previous observations in the area, see SMM Daily Report 13 August 2020)	Patrol
13/08/2020	5	Self-propelled howitzers (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	At the railway station in Rubizhne (84km north-west of Luhansk)	
Non-government-controlled areas				
13/08/2020	3	Self-propelled howitzers (2S1 <i>Gvozdika</i> , 122mm)	Near Khrustalny (formerly Krasnyi Luch, 56km south-west of Luhansk)	Patrol

Table of military and military-type presence in the security zone⁸

Date	No.	Type	Location	Source of observation
Government-controlled areas				
12/08/2020	9	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant)	Near Zaitseve (62km north-east of Donetsk)	Long-range UAV
	3	Armoured combat vehicle	In a residential area of Novozvanivka (70km west of Luhansk)	
	1	Combat engineering vehicle (BAT-2)	Near Bobrove (56km north-west of Luhansk)	
	1	Armoured command vehicle (BMP-1KSh Potok-2)	In a residential area of Krymske (42km north-west of Luhansk)	
	1	Armoured reconnaissance vehicle (BRDM-2)	Near Zoloti Pisky (12km north-west of Donetsk)	
	2	Infantry fighting vehicle (BMP variant)	Near Bohdanivka (41km south-west of Donetsk), about 400m north-west of the disengagement area near Petrivske	Mini-UAV
13/08/2020	1	Armoured personnel carrier (BTR-60)	Near Karlivka (25km north-west of Donetsk)	Patrol

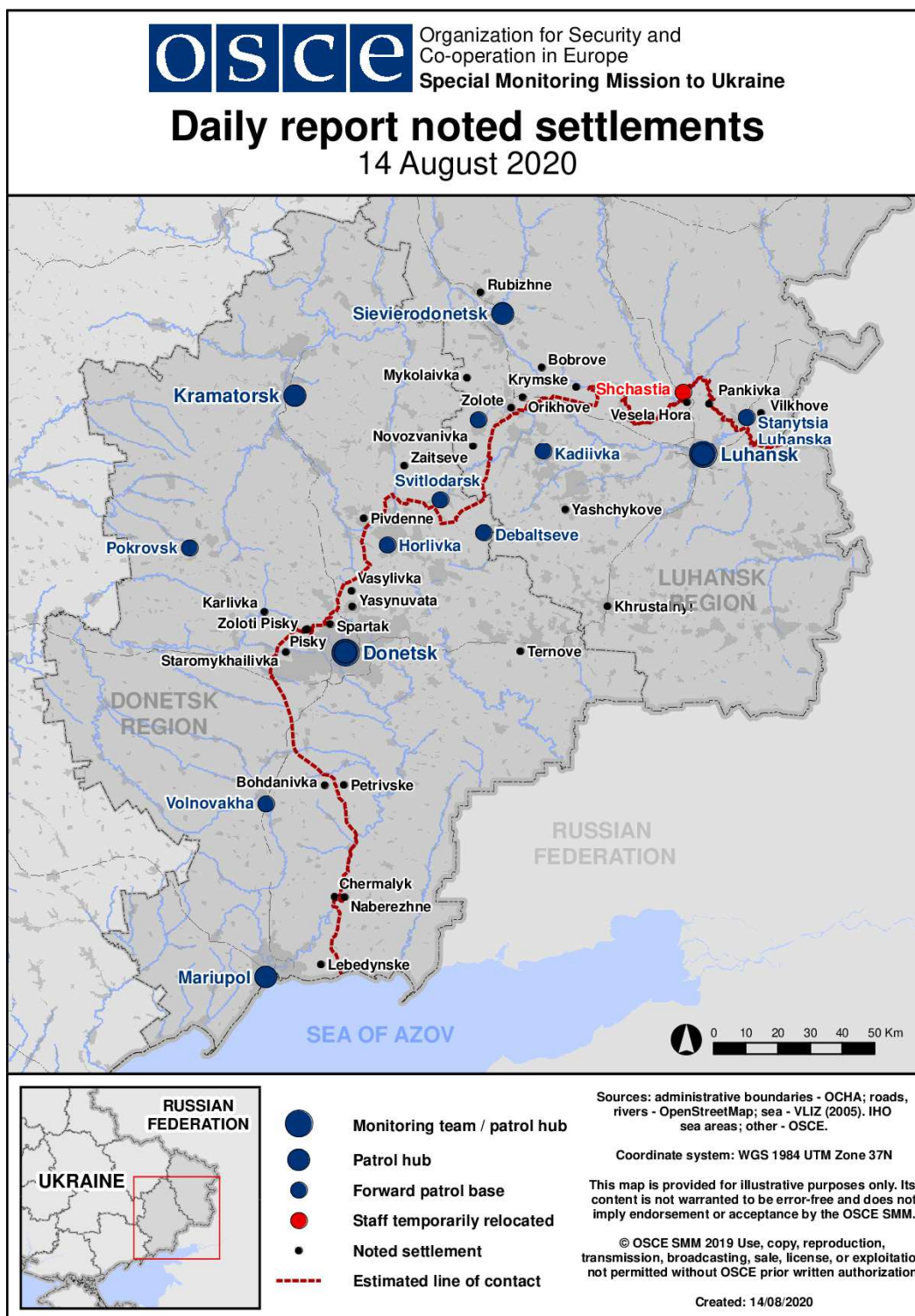
⁸ The hardware mentioned in this section is not proscribed by the provisions of the Minsk agreements on the withdrawal of weapons.

Table of ceasefire violations as of 13 August 2020⁹

SMM position	Event location	Means	No.	Observation	Description	Weapon	Date, time
SMM camera at Donetsk Filtration Station (15km N of Donetsk)	0.5-1km S	Recorded	1	Illumination flare	In vertical flight	N/K	13-Aug, 00:52
About 700m NW of Petrivske (non-government-controlled, 41km S of Donetsk)	3-4km N	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined (assessed as outside the disengagement area)	N/K	13-Aug, 12:45
Kuibyshevskiyi district of Donetsk city (non-government-controlled, 5km W of Donetsk city centre)	2-3km NW	Heard	4	Shot		Small arms	13-Aug, 11:31
	2-3km NW	Heard	2	Shot		Small arms	13-Aug, 12:10
About 1.5km SSE of Mala Shyshivka (non-government-controlled, 52km E of Donetsk)	8-10km N	Saw	1	Illumination flare		N/K	13-Aug, 12:33
About 4km SE of Ternove (non-government-controlled, 57km E of Donetsk)	2-3km SW	Heard	6	Explosion	Outgoing	N/K	13-Aug, 13:00-13:40
	2-3km SW	Heard and saw	6	Explosion	Impact	N/K	13-Aug, 13:00-13:40
	2-3km SW	Heard	12	Burst		N/K	13-Aug, 13:00-13:40
About 500m NE of Kamianka (government-controlled, 20km N of Donetsk)	5-6km N	Heard	3	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Aug, 12:40-12:43
N edge of Mykolaivka (government-controlled, 77km W of Luhansk)	1-2km W	Heard	3	Burst	Assessed as live-fire exercise	Small arms	13-Aug, 09:20-09:30
	1-2km W	Heard	30	Shot	Assessed as live-fire exercise	Small arms	13-Aug, 09:20-09:30
S edge of Vesela Hora (non-government-controlled, 16km N of Luhansk)	2km NNE	Heard	1	Explosion	Undetermined	N/K	13-Aug, 11:41

⁹ The table only includes ceasefire violations directly observed by the SMM patrols or recorded by the SMM cameras and it may include those also assessed to be live-fire exercises, controlled detonations, etc. Details provided – in terms of distance, direction, weapons-type, etc. – are based on assessments provided by monitors on the ground and technical monitoring officers, and are not always necessarily precise. When information is not known (indicated with an “N/K”), the SMM was unable to ascertain such information due to distance, weather conditions technical limitations and/or other considerations. Ceasefire violations recorded by more than one patrol/camera and assessed to be the same are entered only once.

Map of Donetsk and Luhansk regions¹⁰



¹⁰ The SMM is deployed to ten locations throughout Ukraine – Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Dnipro, Chernivtsi, Luhansk and Kyiv – as per Permanent Council Decision 1117 of 21 March 2014. This map of eastern Ukraine is meant for illustrative purposes and indicates locations mentioned in the report, as well as those where the SMM has offices (monitoring teams, patrol hubs, and forward patrol bases) in Donetsk and Luhansk regions. (In red: a forward patrol base from which SMM staff has temporarily relocated based on recommendations of security experts from participating States as well as SMM security considerations. The SMM uses the premises during daylight hours and patrols in this settlement during daylight hours, as well.)